

Meeting Notice

Board/Committee Name: Petersham School Committee
Day/Date: Thursday, June 2nd, 2016
Time of Meeting: 5:30PM
Location: Library



Agenda

1. Call to Order- Lynn Peredina, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

Members Present: Lynn Peredina, Janice Coughlan, and Angela Danielson.

Members Absent: none.

Others: Superintendent Tari Thomas, Principal Joanne Menard, Director of Finance Daniel Haynes, and Alyssa Roberts

2. Public Comment- Bridget Koetsch wanted to mention the safety of the equipment in the playground. She wanted to point out that it can be an area for a Kindergarten teacher safety is her concern. Bridget explained the merry go round is really high off the ground, she does not know what regulations we need to follow.

Lynn Peredina called the Public Hearing on School Choice at 5:36pm.

3. Public Hearing on School Choice

The Education Reform Act of 1993 requires an annual public hearing and vote on School Choice- Lynn Peredina's recommendation is to continue on with the model that they have right now. Lynn explained the LRPC gave a couple scenarios that they wanted to wrap up with that committee. Lynn thinks taking any Vote other than what status quo is would be detrimental at this point. Tari would like to endorse the committee to move forward with school choice from K-6.

Janice Coughlan moved to approve that the Petersham School Committee participate in the

School

Choice Program for the 2016-2017 school year for grades K-6. Angela Danielson seconded.

VOTED:

Unanimous.

Lynn Peredina moved to adjourn the public hearing at 5:40pm. Janice Coughlan seconded.

VOTED:

Unanimous.

4. Report of the Petersham Teachers' Union- no representative present.

5. June Items

- a. Food Service Update for the Committee- Dan Haynes has some very positive news about the School lunch program. Dan explained costs were shifted this fiscal year which did help this problem. Dan explained we have \$9,218 in the account so that will give us some additional flexibility. Dan explained with the help of Janice at the Finance and Facilities subcommittee he would like to shift some of the costs out of choice and back into the cafeteria account.

Angela Danielson moved to approve that the Petersham Center School Committee allow

the

Finance Facilities Subcommittee to handle these decision over the summer. Lynn

Peredina

seconded. VOTED: All in favor. Janice Coughlan: abstained.

- b. Kindergarten Numbers 2016-2017- Principal Menard explained that there are 17 Petersham students eligible for K next year, 10 are confirmed. Joanne has tried to send out a letter to ask all Petersham residents to contact us either by phone, letter, or email and some of them have not yet gotten back to them. Janice Coughlan asked how do you deal with the wait list. Janice said past practice is first come first serve after the siblings get taken off the list. Joanne wants to ask the School Committee for their guidance.
- c. Announcement of Last Day of School- Tari explained that the last day of school will be June 16th and it will be a half day for students.
- d. Accomplishments Related to District-wide Goals- Tari explained that a summer is in your shared file. Tari simply noted our accomplishments this year in all three districts. Next step is to do a more detailed analysis and tailor next year's' plan to show where we are at

6. Matters for Action/Vote

- a. Bus Bid Update (vote)- Dan Haynes explained there were 2 bus bids. 1 was \$135,000 from Swift River and FM Kuzmeskus came in at \$106,920 which is higher than last year by \$4,320. that the Petersham Center School vote to accept the bid from FM Kuzmeskus bid.
Janice Coughlan moved that the Petersham Center School vote to accept the bid of F.M. Kuzmeskus, Inc of Gill MA to provide school bus transportation for the 2016-2017,

2017-2018

and 2018-2019 school years and optional years of 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 at the base contract price of \$106,920 per year subject to a contractual fuel escalation clause. Angela Danielson seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

- b. CAPS Collaborative Capital Reserve (vote)- Tari explained that she is the representative on the CAPS Collaborative. They need a vote of all of their member school districts. So there is information in your shared file but basically it is to create a capital reserve for an option of things. It would be Tari's recommendation to support this for them.

Angela Danielson moved to approve that as as a district member of CAPS Collaborative, the

Petersham School Committee supports CAPS Collaborative in establishing a Capital Reserve Fund to support costs associated with the acquisition, maintenance, and improvement of fixed assets as approved by the CAPS Board of Directors. Janice

Coughlan

seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

- c. Student/Parent Handbooks for 2016-2017 (vote)- Tari explained that the Student/ Parent Handbook has been cited in the past to be problematic for a number of reason. Tari wanted to let you know that Joanne is doing a great job and it is really important for the Principal to go through that first cycle in order to see what makes sense. Joanne is looking to do a substantial renovation with teacher involvement so she is going to ask you to wait until September.
- d. Summer Business (vote)- Lynn explains that typically we take a vote that allows Tari to conduct business that comes up in the summer.
Janice Coughlan moved to approve the Superintendent to conduct business of the district over the summer months for ratification, if necessary, by the Committee at its first regular meeting in Septembre of 2016. Angela Danielson seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.
- e. Superintendent Contract (vote)- Lynn explained this is not ready to be voted on. They need to present to you the Superintendent's evaluation. Lynn explained we did not get this done so we will probably need to do a quick meeting at some point.
- f. Milk Bid (vote)- Dan explained Joanne and Ann did this at 4pm this afternoon, they had 3 bidders. All Star dairy .32 cents per 8 ounce serving. Maines Produce (current providers) .28 for milk. Then New England Ice Cream bid (Garellick) .27. Dan explained we have had some issue with the quality of milk delivered here, we want all of the students to want to drink the milk. Principal Menard did make a phone call twice but it is back to where we were. Janice asked about the use of antibiotics in the milk. Joanne explained to be honest she didn't read through everything.
Angela Danielson moved to approve the bid from New England Ice Cream. Janice Coughlan seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

7. Sub Committee/Liaison Updates

- a. Report of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee- Lynn explained they did hold their final long range planning committee. They were able to fine tune the 2 page document that would be looking to have copies of this available at the town meeting. Tari commended Lynn on getting the conversation going and discussions memorialized on paper for the community to see that you are starting this discussion. Tari explained one of the hearty recommendations was to ask the committee to look at increasing class size in order to increase some revenue. Lynn explained it would be allowing more school choice, we have a cap right now of 16 if we were to raise it to 19 we are then looking at a potential of \$100,000 or more increased revenue. Tari explained generally you do not see large class sizes here.

Janice Coughlan Motion to increase class size to 19 for the 2016-2017 school year. Angela Danielson seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.

- b. Report of the Mahar Representative- Lynn Peredina explained meeting next week.
- c. Report of the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee- Dan explained he would like to meet over the summer, as we wrap up the books he would like some input.
- d. Report of the Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee- Lynn explained she covered this, there is no action to be taken on this right now. Lynn explained we are looking to nominate 1 more person from this committee to sit on the subcommittee. This will be done in September.

- 8. Superintendent's Report- Tari briefly explained her May and June Superintendent's reports with the committee (on file). Dan explained there is a meeting at 6:30 regarding the wood fire furnace, they far exceed what we can afford. Janice explained that it was going to be put on the warrant if the grant that didn't come through. Dan explained it's the price that the project came in at far exceeds the grant amount.

9. Minutes presented for approval: ***Angela Danielson moved to approve the April 7th minutes. Janice Coughlan seconded. VOTED: Unanimous.***

Angela Danielson moved to approve the Long Range Planning Subcommittee September 29, 2015, October 13, November 17, January 12, March 15, March 29, and May 24th. Lynn Seconded. VOTED: Unanimous. Janice Coughlan abstained.

10. ***Janice Coughlan moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(1) To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual and M.G.L Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Teachers and/or Support Personnel and to conduct strategy for negotiations with non-union personnel. Angela Danielson seconded. VOTED: Unanimous. Roll call done by Alyssa Roberts. All in favor.***

11. Date of Next Meeting September 8th, 2016

12. Adjourn- ***Janice Coughlan moved to adjourn at 7:45pm. Angela Danielson seconded. VOTED: Unanimous. Roll call done by Alyssa Roberts. All in favor.***

Minutes taken by: Alyssa Roberts

APPROVED: 9/8/16

The agenda reflects topics that the Chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed.

Public Comment Protocols

The School Committee welcomes public comment on items that are within the scope of the School Committee's responsibilities. The Public Comment agenda item is reserved for this purpose. Members of the public wishing to address the Committee should be aware of the following guidelines:

- The Chair will recognize those wishing to speak and give them the floor. Only persons recognized by the Chair may speak. For purposes of the minutes, speakers should identify themselves at the beginning of their remarks.

- ❑ The purpose of Public Comment is to receive input from the community, not to engage in prolonged conversation with the Committee. The Chair will ensure that any comment or question that requires a response from the committee or the School Department will be addressed in a timely manner.
- ❑ All comments should be addressed through the Chair, not any individual committee member or to others in attendance.
- ❑ Speakers are expected to respect confidentiality. This includes the confidentiality of the speaker's own child/ren as well as that of school staff and personnel.